Amendments to the Specification

At page 5, lines 8-12:

The identified problem of variability in the cutting process which may yield elastic regions with inconsistent dimensions applies not only to elastic regions in training pants, as previously mentioned, but also to elastic regions in any other type of personal care garment in which an integrated (or non-integrated) zone of elastic tension is aligned with an edge of the garment.

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In one embodiment, for example, the garment can be a disposable garment including a chassis with front side panels and back side panels. The chassis defines two leg openings and a waist opening. Each of the front side panels or each of the back side panels include the TEM described above. More particularly, the TEM in the front side panels or the back side panels includes at least one first high tension zone, at least one low tension zone, and a spacer zone between the at least one high tension zone and a waist end edge of each side panel.

At page 5, line 20 – page 8, line 4:

Fig.1 illustrates a perspective view of a pant-like absorbent garment in accordance with the invention, having targeted elastic material in the side panels;

Fig.2 illustrates another embodiment of a pant-like absorbent garment of the invention;

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Fig. 3 is a plan view of the garment shown in Fig. 1, showing the side facing away from the wearer;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the garment shown in Fig. 1, showing the side facing the wearer when the article is worn, and with portions cut away to show the underlying features;

Figs. 5-8 illustrate representative targeted elastic laminate ("TEL") materials useful for making the garments of Figs. 1 and 2;

Figs. 9-12 illustrate representative processes for making TEL materials useful for making garments of the invention;

Fig. 13A shows one exemplary adhesive spray pattern in which the adhesive has been applied to the elastic filaments with attenuation in the cross direction;

Fig. 13B shows a second exemplary adhesive spray pattern;

Fig. 13C illustrates a third exemplary adhesive spray pattern;

Fig. 13D shows an exemplary bond angle in one exemplary adhesive spray pattern;

Fig. 13E shows one exemplary adhesive pattern in which the adhesive has also been applied in the no tension zone including no elastic filaments;

Fig. 14 illustrates the bonding pattern and method of calculating the number of bonds per unit length on elastic strands or filaments;

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Fig. 15A shows a fourth exemplary adhesive spray pattern in a swirled-type of configuration;

Fig. 15B shows a fifth exemplary adhesive spray pattern that is more randomized and which provides a large percentage of adhesive lines in a perpendicular orientation to the elastic filaments;

Fig. 15C illustrates a sixth exemplary adhesive spray pattern having attenuation of adhesive lines in the cross-machine direction;

Fig. 15D shows a seventh exemplary adhesive spray pattern that resembles a "chain-link fence";

Fig. 16 is a schematic view of another process for making TEL materials useful for making garments of the invention;

Fig. 17A is a plan view of a machine direction product assembly for producing an absorbent garment with targeted elastic material in the side panels without a spacer zone between the targeted elastic zone and the waist end edge of each side panel;

Fig. 17B is a plan view of a machine direction product assembly for producing an absorbent garment with targeted elastic material in the side panels with

a spacer zone between the targeted elastic zone and the waist end edge of each side panel;

Figs. 18A-18C are plan views of an assembly section for making a continuous stream of partially assembled discrete training pants;

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Fig. 19 is a plan view of a face mask made of the targeted elastic material of the present invention; and

Figs. 20A-20B illustrate representative TEL materials useful for making the face mask of Fig. 19.

At page 10, line 19 – page 11, line 18:

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The term "low tension zone" or "lower tension zone" refers to a zone or region in a ~~stretch-bonded laminate material~~ TEM having one or more filaments with low elastic tension characteristics relative to the filament(s) of a high tension zone, when a stretching or biasing force is applied to the ~~stretch-bonded laminate material~~ TEM. Thus, when a biasing force is applied to the material, the low tension zone will stretch more easily than the high tension zone. At 50% elongation of the fabric, the high tension zone may exhibit elastic tension at least 10% greater, suitably at least 50% greater, desirably about 100-800% greater, or alternatively about 150-300% greater than the low tension zone.

The term "high tension zone" or "higher tension zone" refers to a zone or region in a ~~stretch-bonded laminate material~~ TEM having one or more filaments with high elastic tension characteristics relative to the filament(s) of a low tension zone, when a stretching or biasing force is applied to the ~~stretch-bonded laminate material~~ TEM. Thus, when a biasing force is applied to the material, the high tension zone will stretch less easily than the low tension zone. Thus, high tension zones have a higher tension than low tension zones. The terms "high tension zone" and "low tension zone" are relative, and the material can have multiple zones of different tensions.

The term "no tension zone[[']]"" refers to a zone or region in a ~~stretch-bonded laminate material~~ TEM having no filaments, the zone having very low or no elastic tension characteristics relative to the low or high tension zones, when a stretching or biasing force is applied to the ~~stretch-bonded laminate material~~ TEM.

At page 13, lines 5-11:

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The term "machine direction assembly" refers to a process in which disposable absorbent products are manufactured in an orientation in which the products are connected end-to-end or waist-to-waist, in the longitudinal direction shown by arrow 48 in Fig. [[17]] 17B, a process utilizing a machine direction assembly entails products traveling through a converting machine parallel to the direction of arrow 48, as opposed to "cross-machine direction assembly" in which the products are connected side-to-side.

At page 21, lines 3-16:

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The flap elastic members 53, the waist elastic members 54 and 56, and the leg elastic members 58 can be formed of any suitable elastic material, such as the targeted elastic material of the invention or separately manufactured and separately attached elastic materials. As is well known to those skilled in the art, suitable elastic materials include sheets, strands or ribbons of natural rubber, synthetic rubber, or thermoplastic elastomeric polymers. The elastic materials can be stretched and adhered to a substrate, adhered to a gathered substrate, or adhered to a substrate and then elasticized or shrunk, for example with the application of heat; such that elastic constrictive forces are imparted to the substrate. In one particular embodiment, for example, the leg elastic members 58 include a plurality of dry-spun coalesced multifilament spandex elastomeric threads sold under the trade name ~~LYCRA®~~ LYCRA and available from E. I. Du Pont de Nemours and Company, Wilmington,

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Delaware, U.S.A., and other components of the garment, such as the side panels 55, include the targeted elastic material of the invention.

At page 32, line 19 – page 33, line 10:

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Materials suitable for use in preparing elastomeric filaments 108 and 109 in the low and high tension zones 102, 125A, 104 and 106, include diblock, triblock, tetrablock or other multi-block elastomeric copolymers such as olefinic copolymers, including styrene-isoprene-styrene, styrene-butadiene-styrene, styrene ethylene/butylene-styrene, or styrene-ethylene/propylene-styrene, which can be obtained from the Shell Chemical Company, under the trade designation ~~KRATON®~~ KRATON elastomeric resin; polyurethanes, including those available from B. F. Goodrich Co., under the trade name ~~ESTANE®~~ ESTANE; polyamides, including polyether block amides available from Ato Chemical Company, under the trade name ~~PEBAX®~~ PEBAX polyether block amide; polyesters, such as those available from E. I. Du Pont de Nemours Co., under the trade name ~~HYTREL®~~ HYTREL polyester; and single-site or metallocene-catalyzed polyolefins having density less than about 0.89 grams/cc, available from Dow Chemical Co. under the trade name ~~AFFINITY®~~ AFFINITY.

At Page 33, lines 11-14:

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Alternatively, pre-made elastic materials such as elastic films or elastomeric threads (e.g., sold under the trade name ~~LYCRA®~~ LYCRA and available from E.I. Du Pont de Nemours and Company, Wilmington, Delaware, U.S.A.) can be used to form elastomeric filaments 108 and 109.

At page 49, line 16 – page 50, line 5:

To make the higher tension region, a vertical filament die 230 extrudes higher tension (i.e., higher basis weight) elastic filaments 316 in a band which is narrower than the laminate 307 containing filaments 312. Filaments 316 pass around a chill roll 245, or a series of chill rolls, and a series of stretch rolls, for example [[two]] <u>three</u> stretch rolls 255, 256, <u>257</u> before being joined with laminate 307 between nip rolls 356 and 358, which are suitably smooth or patterned calender rolls. Simultaneously, facing layers 360 and 362 are unwound from supply rolls 364 and 366 and joined with the laminate between nip rolls 356 and 358 to make TEL 370. As TEL 370 is relaxed, it may assume the puckered configuration shown, due to retraction of high tension filaments 316 present in part of the laminate. TEL 370 can be flattened out between <u>nip roll</u> ~~rolls~~ 374 and <u>storage roll</u> 376, [[and]] <u>while being</u> wound onto <u>storage</u> roll 376.

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At page 50, lines 6-19:

The manufacture of training pants having side panels, with or without fastening components, can be accomplished in the manner described in U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/855,484, filed 15 May 2001 by Joseph D. Coenen et al., <u>(now U.S. Patent 6,562,167)</u> which is incorporated herein by reference. Fig. 17A illustrates a machine direction disposable garment assembly in which the side panels 34, 134 are made of a targeted elastic material. A cutter cuts along cut line 500A to yield individual product assemblies with targeted elastic zones 137A and 131A with no spacer zone between the waist end edge 72A and the targeted elastic zones. Process variability may lead to targeted elastic zones 131A and 137A of variable sizes. Fig. 17B illustrates a machine direction disposable garment assembly in which the side panels are made of a targeted elastic material of the present invention. The cutter cuts along cut line 500 leaving spacer zone 161 and spacer zone 167 between the waist end edge 72 of the side panels and each targeted elastic zone 131 and 137.

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The presence of the spacer zones 161 and 167 allows the size of the targeted elastic zones to be manufactured consistently.